

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

106th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 52

March 17, 1999, 4:16 p.m.
Page S-2824 Temp. Record

FAA 60-DAY REAUTHORIZATION/Final Passage

SUBJECT: Interim Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act . . . S. 643. Final passage, as amended.

ACTION: BILL PASSED, 100-0

SYNOPSIS: As amended and passed, S. 643, the Interim Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act, will extend authorizations for 60 days for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) Airport Improvement Program and for other FAA programs. The current short-term FAA reauthorization bill will expire March 31. This bill's reauthorizations will expire May 31. More specifically, authorizations will be extended for the Airport Improvement Program, the Airway Facilities Improvement Program, the FAA Operations account, and the Aviation Insurance Program (which provides "war insurance" for commercial aircraft operating in dangerous areas). Additionally, a technical correction will be made to reauthorize the Military Airport Program (which was mistakenly not reauthorized in the current short-term extension; that program is for the conversion of military airports to civilian purposes). As amended, \$30 million will be released from escrow for the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) to spend on reconstruction projects at Reagan National and Dulles Airports (\$200 million for such projects for the MWAA is currently being held in escrow pending the enactment of an agreement on new flights at Reagan National Airport).

Those favoring final passage contended:

The Senate, by a vote of 92-1, passed a full reauthorization bill for the FAA at the end of the 105th Congress (see 105th Congress, second session, vote No. 288). Congress ran out of time last year before it was able to resolve differences between the two Houses and enact a full reauthorization bill. Rather than to allow \$10 billion in annual airport funding to lapse, it enacted a short-term, 6-month reauthorization bill. That short-term extension will expire at the end of this month. The Senate still is in broad agreement on how to proceed on its version of a long-term reauthorization bill, but it has significant disagreements with the House.

(See other side)

YEAS (100)			NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (0)	
Republican (55 or 100%)	Democrats (45 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Kennedy			
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Kerrey			
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Bayh	Kerry			
Bennett	Jeffords	Biden	Kohl			
Bond	Kyl	Bingaman	Landrieu			
Brownback	Lott	Boxer	Lautenberg			
Bunning	Lugar	Breaux	Leahy			
Burns	Mack	Bryan	Levin			
Campbell	McCain	Byrd	Lieberman			
Chafee	McConnell	Cleland	Lincoln			
Cochran	Murkowski	Conrad	Mikulski			
Collins	Nickles	Daschle	Moynihan			
Coverdell	Roberts	Dodd	Murray			
Craig	Roth	Dorgan	Reed			
Crapo	Santorum	Durbin	Reid			
DeWine	Sessions	Edwards	Robb			
Domenici	Shelby	Feingold	Rockefeller			
Enzi	Smith, Bob	Feinstein	Sarbanes			
Fitzgerald	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Schumer			
Frist	Snowe	Harkin	Torricelli			
Gorton	Specter	Hollings	Wellstone			
Gramm	Stevens	Inouye	Wyden			
Grams	Thomas	Johnson				
Grassley	Thompson					
Gregg	Thurmond					
Hagel	Voinovich					
Hatch	Warner					
Helms						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

Compiled and written by the staff of the Republican Policy Committee—Larry E. Craig, Chairman

Any conference on the bill may therefore be lengthy. Given the other pressing issues which Congress must consider this month, we do not believe that there is time to resolve the differences with the House before March 31. Therefore, we have offered this bill for a 2-month extension. The bill passed by the Senate last year contained two compromises relating to a local Washington airport, Reagan National. The two issues that were resolved were the number of additional flights, or slots, that would be permitted, and the number of exemptions that would be made to the "perimeter rule" (regarding the length of non-stop flights that would be permitted to and from the airport). Had that bill been enacted, funds that are currently being held in escrow for reconstruction projects at Reagan National and another Washington airport, Dulles, would have been released. Those funds will be released when compromise language is enacted. However, the Senators from Virginia made a compelling case that those airports urgently need at least a portion of those funds now. Therefore, this short-term resolution will release \$30 million of the funds that are being held in escrow. As a result of that release, we are confident that the one area of controversy related to this short-term reauthorization bill has been resolved. We urge our colleagues to support this bill, and to join us in passing a long-term bill next month.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to final passage.